HASSAN JEANNE M 10/24/81 140730 PRINTER: LI
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ACTION ARA-15
INFO OCT-01 ALS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-10 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00 OME-01 /080 W
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RB DATE 25 JUN 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EA. DATE
TS AUTH. EXEMPTION(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKING ☐
DECLASSIFY ☒
RELEASE DENY ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS ☒

P 292010Z JUL 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4039
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GOERGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 5606
E.O.12065: GDS 7/29/80 (LE LAWRENCE) OR-AMB
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: ATTACK OF FORMER PM SHEAR
1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
2. FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT OF JAMAICA LARGEST TRADE UNION HUGH SHEARER WAS INJURED JULY 25 IN FALMOUTH, EAST OF MONTEGO BAY, WHILE EN ROUTE TO MAJOR JAMICA LABOR PARTY (JLP) CANDIDATE PRESENTATION RALLY IN LATTER CITY. SHEAR WAS STRUCK IN FOREHEAD BUT IS NOT BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED.
3. ACCOUNTS OF THE ATTACK ON SHEARER VARY, JAMAICA DEFENSE FORCES ´JDF) COMMANDER BRIGADIER ROBERT NEISH, TOLD AMBASSADOR JULY 27 THAT SHEARER WAS INJURIED BY PELLET FROM WHAT SEEMED TO BE AN AIR RIFLE. JAMAICAN PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE ATTACK QUOTE SHEARER´S DRIVER AS SAYING A CROWD HURLED BRICKS AND BITTLES, SHATTERING SEVERAL OF THE CAR´S WINDOWS AND THAT A SPEARGUN WAS FIRED THROUGH THE LEFT REAR WINDOW OF THE VEHICLE, GRAZING SHEARER IN THE FOREHEAD.
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4. SHEARER WAS DRIVEN TO FALMOUTH HOSPITAL WHERE HE RECEIVED SIX STITCHES. HE THEN CONTINUED TO MONTEGO BAY, WHERE HE ADDRESSED RALLY NEAR THE END OF HIS REMARKS HE BEGAN TO BLEED THROUGH THE NOSE AND WAS ESCORTED FROM THE PLATFORM.
5. BOTH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY AND OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA PUBLICLY DEPLORED THE ATTACK ON SHEARER, EXPRESSING THEIR RELIEF THAT HE WAS NOT INJURED SERIOUSLY.
6. COMMENT: ATTACK ON SHEARER APPEARS TO REPREESEMT NEW ELEMENT IN CURRENT POLITICAL VIOLENCE. WHILE A LONG TRADITION OF VIOLENCE EXISTS IN JAMAICAN POLITICS, POLITICAL LEADERS AND THEIR MILIES HAV E
BEEN IMMUNE FROM ATTACK. MANLEY HIMSELF PASSED BY THE SITE OF AN AMBUSH OF A BUSLOAD OF PNP SUPPORTERS IN BOG WALK ON JULY 16 VERY SHORTLY BEFORE IT TOOK PLACE. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE EITHER MANLEY OR SEAGA IS PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR EITHER OF THESE ATTACKS. WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE ANY EVIDENCE AT THIS POINT.

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WE SUSPECT DIDDIDENT ELEMENTS WITHIN THE TWO PARTIES, MOST LILE
Y
WITH IN THE RADICAL FACTION OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY
(PNP) ARE BEHIND THESE UNPRECENDENTEL INCILENTS. END COMMENT.
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